

TV GUIDE

Sky One

- 5.10 Pokemon** (R) 2228013
5.35 Stargate: Infinity Animated action series. (R,T) 9010029
6.00 Pokemon (R) 41742
6.30 Stargate: Infinity (R,T) 47891
7.00 Yu-Gi-Oh! (R) 74433
7.30 Zoids (R) 93568
8.00 The Dog Whisperer A pitbull is taken into hand. (R) 10100
8.30 Entertainment Tonight US Entertainment news. (R) 19471
9.00 Taste Food programme, hosted by Beverly Turner. (R) 27162
10.00 Buffy The Vampire Slayer The first-ever episode. (R,T) 82452
11.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine See 4.00pm. (R,T) 79988
12.00 The Dog Whisperer 93487
12.30 Kirsty's Home Videos Amusing clips. (R) 46013
1.00 Taste 41568
2.00 Law & Order The wife of a former star is murdered. (R) 62100
3.00 Buffy The Vampire Slayer Buffy and her friends encounter a powerful vampire. (R,T) 36162
4.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine The Breen attack. (R,T) 55297
5.00 Star Trek: Voyager The Doctor discovers his memory has been tampered with. (R,T) 7839
6.00 Futurama Fry and the gang take a doomed cruise. (R,T) 2013
6.30 Malcolm In The Middle Hal hosts a poker night. (R,T) 3365



MAN UTD'S GREATEST GOALS: Alan Shearer is among the stars admiring United's best ever goals, 8pm

- 7.00 The Simpsons** Bart's parents to send him to fat camp. (R,T) 8568
7.30 The Simpsons Homer is chosen to provide the voice for a new canine character on The Itchy and Scratchy Show. (R,T) 9549

- 8.00 Man Utd's Greatest Goals** Part one of two. The 50 greatest goals scored by the football club, featuring contributions from Alan Shearer, Bryan Robson, Ron Atkinson and Bob Geldof. 82839

- 10.00 The 4400** Tom Baldwin has a tough decision to make when he finds himself in a different world where no one has heard of the 4400. (R) 61346

- 11.00 Scrubs** Dr Wen is injured and unable to perform surgery, so Turk steps into the breach – and success gives his ego a massive boost. (T) 56926

- 11.30 Entertainment Tonight** All the celebrity gossip from both sides of the Atlantic. 31549

- 12.30 Star Trek: Voyager** (R,T) 1787018 **1.25 Angel** (R,T) 5803105
2.15 Law & Order (R) 2290834
3.05 Alias (T) 8539360 **3.55 Entertainment Tonight US** 22857582 **4.20-5.10 Gamezone** (R) 1730018



FACT HUNT: With Al Murray, ITV1, 11pm

MIKE WARD

WHAT'S HOT TO WATCH TODAY



I BET you didn't know that comedian Al Murray is the great-great-great grandson of a famous Victorian novelist called William Makepeace Thackeray. And I'm equally certain you couldn't give a toss. I just thought I'd mention it because Al happens to be kicking off a new series on ITV1 tonight called **FACT HUNT** (11pm), and this is just one of the countless titbits of information you won't be hearing on it.

To be honest, Fact Hunt is simply a pub quiz, and contains three very straightforward ingredients – the quiz format itself, Al's brilliant Pub Landlord

routine (naturally, he hosts the show in character) and a title which shares first prize for nerve with the French Connection T-shirt range.

It's a really good post-pub laugh, though, with Al on suitably offensive form. And the prizes, I'm delighted to report, are impressively cheapskate.

EARLIER, on BBC1, there's panic over Stacey's whereabouts in **EASTENDERS** (8pm) after she's flipped and done a runner. But fear not, because Grunt has soon tracked her down to Charlie's shed at the allotment (it's always a fair bet) and dragged her home. Or carried her, kicking

and screeching, to be strictly accurate.

Back in the Square, Stacey and Kat then brick it when the soap police show up. Kat tells Stacey it's time she told the troof about Den's deaf – sorry, 'death' – but Stacey has other ideas. Ruby, mind, is finally let in on the secret.

MEANWHILE, in **CORONATION STREET** (ITV1, 7.30pm), the clueless Violet reckons everything between her and Jason is hunky-dory again. And Jason, too, is hoping they're back on track. But Sarah, who Jason bedded on the night of the Battersbys' wedding, doesn't look entirely thrilled for them.

ALAN FRANK'S TELLY MOVIES

STAR RATINGS

*****Don't miss it
 *****Good ***Average
 **Time filler *Garbage!

THE WAY WEST (1967) * C4 1.10-3.30pm.** Western. Ruthless Kirk Douglas and Richard Widmark vie for control as they lead a wagon train across America.

EYE ON THE SPARROW (TVM, 1987) * Five 1.30-3.30pm.** Fact-based drama. Blind couple Mare Winningham and Keith Carradine battle against bureaucratic indifference when they fight adopt children.

DEATH IN SMALL DOSES (TVM, 1995) * Five 3.30-5.30pm.** Fact-based courtroom drama. Womanising gardener Richard Thomas is put on trial accused of murdering his wife with arsenic.

THE REPLACEMENT KILLERS * Five 9.00-10.45pm.** Thriller. Hired assassin Chow Yun-Fat fails in his assignment to eliminate the son of a policeman.

OVERBOARD (1987) ** ITV 11.30pm-1.35am.** Romantic comedy. Spoiled heiress Goldie Hawn suffers from amnesia after falling off her yacht.

THE SHINING (1980) * BBC1 11.35-1.35am.** Stephen King shocker. Writer Jack Nicholson takes the job of caretaker in an isolated hotel.

DESERT THUNDER (1998) ** Five 11.45pm-1.15am. Thriller. Rebellious retired US flier Daniel Baldwin and his squadron of misfits are on hand to save the situation when Iraqi terrorists threaten.

THE HITCHER (1986) ** C4 midnight-1.45am.** Shocker. C. Thomas Howell has horrifying cause to regret his good impulse when he gives a lift to Rutger Hauer.

THE KISS (1988) * Five 1.15-2.40am.** Shocker. Model Joanna Pacula becomes possessed by a family curse.

SAATHIYA (2002) ** C4 1.45-4.20am.** Subtitled Indian romantic musical. A couple whose families insist that they end their relationship decide to take drastic action.

REGIONAL VARIATIONS

BBC1 Variations WALES: 6.30-7.00 Regional News 723
BBC2 Variations WALES: 7.00-9.30 Scrum V Live 32433 9.00 Gardeners' World 5487 9.30 Timewatch 545471 10.20-10.30 Space: Flying Visits 219891
ITV1 Variations ITV1 ANGLIA: 3.29-3.30 Anglia Weather 1241013 6.00-6.30 Local News 839 ITV1 CENTRAL: 3.29-3.30 Local Weather 1241013 6.00-6.30 Regional News 839 ITV1 MERIDIAN: 3.29-3.30 Meridian Weather 1241013 6.00-6.30 Local News 839 ITV1 CHANNEL: 1.20-1.30 Puffin's Play (see including cartoon fun with Jersey Royals. 19814549 6.00-6.30 Local News Weather 839 ITV1 WEST: 3.29-3.30 ITV West Weather 1241013 6.00-6.30 Local News 839 ITV1 WALES: 3.29-3.30 ITV Wales Weather 1241013 6.00-6.30 Local News Weather 839 11.00 The Food Show 4758 11.30 The Guest List 18597 12.00 The Frank Skinner Show 85209 1.00-1.25 Fact Hunt 4327655 ITV1 WESTCOUNTRY: 3.29-3.30 Westcountry Weather 1241013 6.00-6.30 Local News 839
S4C As Channel 4 except: 9.00 Ysgollon Followed by Deadwells 9299668 9.25-9.30 Tais Modern 43821346 12.30 Planned Plant Bach 66825810 1.15 Water Stories 39612088 1.20 A Place In The Sun: Home Or Away 91960549 2.25 Deal Or No Deal 19398075 3.15 Countdown 11384100 4.00-5.00 Planned Plant 80491520 6.30 Unred 5 40431162 7.30 Newyddion 13517297 8.00 Pobol Y Cwm 95297588 8.25 Gwylt Ar Gwydr 9.00 Gem Y Ganll 88594384 10.00 Property Ladder Revisited 88597471 11.00 Rock School 96165758 11.35 Spoons 15251029 12.05 The Osbournes 55115582 12.35 Dirty Tricks 83457360 1.25 Film: Earth V The Spider 32479143 3.00 Freeports On 4 60476766 3.25 Freeports On 4 60488501 3.50 Honda Formula 4 Powerboating 14050066 4.15 Diwedd

TV GUIDE

MATT BAYLIS



...ON LAST NIGHT'S TV

THEY'VE suddenly gone soft in Walford. In last night's visit to **EASTENDERS** (BBC1), Ian Beale strangely developed a place in his heart for Patrick, and helped him to get his new business venture on track.

But it's hard to imagine Mr Truman Senior being much good at the second-hand car game. Anyone who picks Jim Branning as a best friend needs his brain serviced.

Other characters were also picking up on the touchy-feely mood. Grant took Dennis to the Arches for a quiet word. And that's exactly what they had, believe it not. Grant gave Dennis some sober relationship advice about his behaviour towards Sharon.

It didn't quite do the trick, but Dennis then went off for a girly chat with Stacey,

which made him see things in a clearer light. His alliance with arch-villain Johnny Allen, which had lasted all of 20 minutes, went down the tubes, and he ended up shaking hands with the Mitchells.

Last week, it seemed Albert Square's population was composed of gangsters and murderers. Now they're all agony aunts.

Heartache

There was plenty of heartache on offer in Channel Four's new series **WANTED: NEW MUM AND DAD**, which follows various children as they try to find adoptive families. Most adopting parents prefer babies, leaving older kids in limbo, shuffled between foster carers and children's homes. But a

new scheme is trying to address the problem, fitting kids to families with the aid of home-made videos and scrap-books.

The youngsters we met, Daniel, Sean and Rhiannon, were a bewitching mix of toughness and innocence. Each story had sad and joyful moments. But Daniel's was the most interesting, as he prepared for life with a gay couple, Noel and Steven. He was puzzled at first at the idea of having two dads.

The most heart-warming thing about this programme was the patience and love provided by foster carers and social workers readying the kids for their new lives.

They get harsh criticism when mistakes are made. It was good to see what happens when they get it right.

FILMS

SKY MOVIES 1

7.15am The Santa Clause 2 (2002)

(U) Festive fantasy sequel. 15626297

9.00 Curtain Call (1999) (PG)

Romantic comedy. 12646549

10.40 Chasing Papi (2003) (PG)

Romantic comedy, starring Roselyn Sanchez. 4997723

12.00noon Spider-Man 2 (2004)

(PG) Comic-strip adventure. 13523346

2.15 Sky Movies News The latest

from Hollywood. 271556

2.45 Curtain Call (1999) (PG)

Romantic comedy. 77459094

4.30 The Santa Clause 2 (2002)

(U) Festive fantasy sequel. 71487433

6.25 Chasing Papi (2003) (PG)

Romantic comedy, starring Roselyn Sanchez. 22304365

8.00 Spider-Man 2 (2004) (PG)

Comic-strip adventure, starring Tobey Maguire. 94343758

10.10 The Matrix Revolutions

(2003) (15) Sci-Fi sequel, starring Keanu Reeves. 30918365

12.20am Shanghai Knights (2003)

(12) High-kicking comedy sequel, starring Jackie Chan. 954650

2.15 New Blood (1999) (18) Thriller,

starring John Hurt. 753785

3.50 Dirty Weekend (1993) (18)

Vigilante thriller with Lia Williams. 798259

5.35-6.05 Top Tens Of 2005 A look

at the best movies of the year. 9988476

SKY MOVIES 2

6.50am Ladybugs (1991) (PG)

Comedy. 94218452

8.40 Virginia's Run (2002) (PG)

Drama. 80924094

10.40 Dracula: Dead And Loving It

(1995) (PG) Comedy. 80848013

12.25pm Ladybugs (1991) (PG)

Comedy. 449297

2.10 Ride To Freedom: The Rosa

Parks Story (2001) (PG) 880655

4.00 Virginia's Run (2002) (PG)

Family drama. 5471

6.00 The Brothers Grimm Special

Preview of the Terry Gilliam film. 633181

6.20 Dracula: Dead And Loving It

(1995) (PG) Horror spoof. 70394549

8.00 Star Trek: Nemesis (2002)

(12) Sci-Fi adventure. 77907

10.00 Buggy (1991) (18) Gangster

thriller, starring Warren Beatty. 60248162

12.20am Ripley's Game (2002) (15)

Thriller. 963308

2.15 Undeclared (2003) (15) Drama.

755143

3.50 Nine Months (1995) (12)

Comedy. 767389

5.35 7.15 Ride To Freedom: The

Rosa Parks Story (2001) (PG)

Drama. 38172502

SKY CINEMA 1

6.00am Kotch (1971) (PG) Comedy.

5575075

8.00 The Mudlark (1950) (U) Drama.

4471029

10.00 The Lost Weekend (1945)

(PG) Drama. 23785907

11.50 Kotch (1971) (PG) Comedy.

81048075

1.50pm The Private Life Of

Sherlock Holmes (1970) (PG)

Comedy. 66393988

4.00 The Mudlark (1950) (U)

Sentimental yarn, starring Alec Guinness.

6252346

6.00 The Lost Weekend (1945)

(PG) Drama, with Ray Milland. 29263549

7.45 The Private Life Of Sherlock

Holmes (1970) (PG) Humorous

mystery thriller, starring Robert Stephens.

61709898

10.00 Dressed To Kill (1980) (18)

Thriller, starring Michael Caine. 2423013

11.45 St Elmo's Fire (1985) (15)

Brat-pack drama. 6277520

1.40am Deal Of The Century

(1983) (15) Comedy. 3524785

3.40 Sky Movies News 67548476

4.10 6.00 Moon Over Miami (1941)

(U) Musical. 7881414

Sky Box Office Digital movies can be ordered using the handset from the on-screen listings guide.

RADIO

Radio 1 (FM: 97.6-99.8 MHz)

7.00 Chris Moyles. 10.00 Jo

Whitley. 12.45 Newsbeat. 1.00

Colin and Edith. 4.00 Scott

Mills. 6.00 Essential Selection.

9.00 Westwood. 11.00

Reggae Dancehall Nite. 1.00

Fabio And Groovender. 3.00

1Xtra Presents.

Radio 2 (FM: 88-90.2 MHz)

6.00 Richard Allinson. 7.30

Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce.

12.00 Jeremy Vine. 2.00

Steve Wright. 5.05 Johnnie

Walker. 7.00 Soul Satisfaction.

7.30 Friday Night With Dionne

Warwick. 9.15 Chronicles.

Volume One. 9.30 Listen To

The Band. 10.00 The Green

Room. 12.00 Bob Harris.

3.00-6.00 Janey Lee Grace.

Radio 5 Live (MW: 909, 693

kHz) 5.00 Morning Reports.

6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Victoria

Derbyshire. 12.00 News. 1.00

Simon Mayo. 4.00 Drive. 7.00

Sport. 10.00 Brian Hayes.

1.00 Up All Night.

Virgin Radio (MW: 1215,

1197, 1242 kHz) 6.00 Pete &

Geoff. 10.00 Russ Williams.

1.00 Neil Francis. 4.00 Martin

Collins. 6.00 Party Classics.

10.00 Sarah Champion. 1.00

The Edge. 3.00 Robin Burke.

SPORT

SKY SPORTS 1

8.00am Legends Of Cricket 40926

8.30 Motor Racing 49297

9.00 Racing News 30549

9.30 FA Cup Classics 65723

10.00 FIFA Futbol Mundial

98549

10.30 ATP Tennis 29433

11.00 Test Cricket 18079

12.30pm Live Cricket South Africa v New

Zealand. 2862181

6.00 Soccer AM's All Sports

Show 600984

6.55 U Can Do It 595617

7.00 Premier League Preview The weekend's

fixtures. 7094

7.30 Live FA Cup Football

Merthyr Tydfil v Walsall (Kick-off 7.45pm). 765655

10.00 Live Boxing Martin Power v Ian Napa.

95839

12.00-8.00midnight Live Test Cricket

Australia v West Indies. 5084853

SKY SPORTS 2

6.00am Transworld Sport 8702926

7.00 Good Morning Sports Fans 7271618

8.00 Football League Review 6821177

9.00 UEFA Champions League 1714365

9.30 UEFA Champions League 1554461

10.00 UEFA Champions League 4032384

10.30 UEFA Champions League 1710549

11.00 UEFA Champions League 7019655

11.30 UEFA Champions League 1807029

12.30 UEFA Champions League 3459097

1.00 UEFA Champions League 5640075

1.30 UEFA Champions League 4809538

2.00 UEFA Champions League 2198100

3.00 UEFA Champions League 9439433

3.30 UEFA Champions League 2177617

4.00 UEFA Champions

League 2189452

4.30 UEFA Champions

League 2185636

5.00 Live US Tour Golf The

Tour Championship. 4453926

10.00 Soccer AM's

All Sports Show Highlights and bloopers.

1579520

10.55 U Can Do It Encouraging

youngsters to get involved in sport. 7481487

11.00 Premier League Preview The weekend's

fixtures. 7001636

11.30 ICC Cricket World

Magazine show. 4038568

12.00midnight FA Cup

Football 8235853

1.30 Soccer AM's All Sports Show

4444563

2.25 U Can Do It 15895872

2.30 Premier

League Preview 2411230

3.00 Live Motor

Racing Qualifying session for the A1 Grand Prix in

Australia. 4080105

5.00 European Drag Racing

4625394

5.30 Adrenaline Hunters 9637940

SKY SPORTS 3

6.00am Race World 16312487

7.00 Snooker 81319758

10.30 Motor Racing 98317810

11.00 Racing News 23857988

11.30 Football League Review 88308907

12.30pm Victory Shield Football

88303452

2.00 Rugby Club 40937907

3.30 Race World 15693839

4.30 FIFA Futbol Mundial

6385459

5.00 Endzone 46406810

6.00 Live International Cricket South Africa v

New Zealand. 76479181

8.30 Test Cricket Australia v West Indies. 12429278

10.00 WWE: Late Night - Smackdown Over-the-top

Wrestling action. 23851704

12.00midnight WWE: Late Night - Bottom Line 45089766

1.00 Tight Lines 72580679

2.00 Fight Night 12400143

4.00 FA Cup Football 15663698

5.30 World Sport 70052921

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TAKE IT HOME

Kung phew action is real chop stuff

by PHIL BOUCHER

BRACE yourself for some top-class fight scenes in **Kung Fu Hustle**.

Hundreds of martial arts experts spin like mini-tornadoes, leap off tall buildings and beat the hell out of each other in bizarre ways.

The story follows Sing, a yob who dreams of making it as a mobster for the Axe Gang, a murderous group of black suits who run 1940s Hong Kong.

Sing wants to look cool and attract the ladies. But his plans go wrong when he picks on a housing complex and sparks a full-scale war between the Axe Gang and its residents - who turn out to be kung fu masters in disguise.

Cue a series of slugfests as the two sides fight inside a zany CGI-controlled world of flailing fists and reflexes.

Kung Fu Hustle is available to buy and rent on DVD at £19.99. The certificate 15 DVD includes delet-



CUT ABOVE: It's mayhem in Hong Kong

ed scenes, outtakes and a poster and photo gallery.

Sony Pictures Home Entertainment to offer a first prize of a DVD plus electronic slam man - a £300 electronic robot that lets you thump the heck out of it. Twenty runners-up get DVDs. Simply

answer this question: What's the hero's name?

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SLAM MAN: Top robot

ALAN FRANK'S DVD VIEW

TOP TIP

THE DESCENT (18) (Pathe DVD) ONE minute the man who's driving along happily with his family says, "I'm fine", the next minute there's a terrible crash.

Next time you look, he's horribly impaled by a metal pipe like a sausage on a stick at a barbecue: and that's just for openers!

Director Neil Marshall's sadistic shock at the start of this supremely scary follow-up to his hit werewolf chiller *Dog Soldiers* should leave you shivering, but beware - there's worse to come!

A year later, Shauna Macdonald, who plays Sarah, has recovered from the accident that killed her husband and is set to enjoy a caving holiday under America's Appalachian Mountains with five female friends, led by feisty Natalie Mendoza.

The daring pals descend into a series of unexplored caverns only to find themselves trapped underground after a rock fall.

They end up fighting for their lives when murderous mutants start to stalk them.

Marshall serves up near-unbearable, nerve-shredding suspense. If you're afraid of the dark or suffer from claustrophobia, you're in for an even scarier time as blind humanoid mutants scuttle through the dark before they pounce on their prey.

On the surface, the movie is simply another traditional "things-that-go-bump-in-the-dark" horror flick but Marshall marshals his horrors so diabolically well the chills and thrills come up bright and shining like new.

VERDICT: 8/10



HELL TO PAY: Sarah (Shauna Macdonald)

BEST OF THE REST

THE POLAR EXPRESS (U) (Warner DVD/VHS)

MOVIE magic allows Tom Hanks to co-star with his favourite actor Tom Hanks in one of the most visually astonishing animated films ever made.

Hanks modelled for almost every character from the conductor, a mysterious hobo and on to Santa, whom a boy meets on the enchanted train taking him and a bunch of other youngsters to Father Christmas workshops at the North Pole.

A series of fascinating special features as the kids go on their magical journey adds lots to a terrific story.

Director Robert Zemeckis, who made smash hit movies like *Back To The Future* and *Romancing The Stone*, uses a new process called performance capture to create a sparkling story which is surely destined to become a firm family favourite and a big hit over the festive season.

VERDICT: 6/10

FAMILY CHOICE

THE SIMPSON'S CHRISTMAS DOUBLE PACK (PG) (Fox DVD)

IF you decide to miss them then, "D'oh!" as TV's funniest dysfunctional family return in more hilariously wild and wacky adventures in this tasty double pack.

In *Christmas With The Simpsons*, Yuletide is a time for mad merriment while in *Simpsons Roasting On An Open Fire*, Homer gets the job of Santa, and the family is run out of town in *Miracle On Evergreen Terrace*.

Christmas cheer arrives early in *A Simpsons Christmas 2*. Meanwhile, Bart and Lisa are snowed in at school and turn on Principal Skinner in *Skinner's Sense Of Snow* and Homer writes a hit Christmas song in *Dude, Where's My Ranch*.

VERDICT: 9/10

BEST BUY

MARY POPPINS/TARZAN/LILO AND STITCH (U) (Walt Disney DVD £35)

HOW about 300 minutes of Disney entertainment to watch again and again?

Julie Andrews soars in her Oscar-winning role as the magical nanny in the classic musical *Mary Poppins* and Dick Van Dyke's Cockney accent's a hoot.

Tony Goldwin swings into action to provide the voice for Tarzan in the animated action adventure with Glenn Close also lending a hand.

And youngsters should have a ball watching a young orphan girl making friends with a little extra-terrestrial in *Hawaii in Lilo and Stitch*.

VERDICT: 8/10

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POSH SHOWS THE WAY AS CLASSIC CHIC MAKES A COMEBACK

BLACK's back



SCREEN TEST: Curvy Jessica Alba, 24, looks every inch the Hollywood siren in this classic little black dress that oozes old style glam



GUESS what, fashion fans? Black is back! And with its super slimming qualities, it's no surprise everyone has been buying into the look.

Victoria Beckham, 31, certainly doesn't need any slimming down. But that didn't stop the style icon stepping out this week in the season's fave colour, far right.

And she's not the only celeb to get the look. Here, CLARE TAYLOR checks out the sexy stars who've gone black to basics...

LEGGING IT: Emmerdale dazzler Lucy Pargeter, 28, scores a hit on her first post-baby outing. Layers of jet beads and necklines prove she is well and truly back in shape – and back in style



TAKING THE PLUNGE: Keira Knightley, 20, proves less is more in this chic and simple number. The plunging neckline and high belted waist give her LBD a bang-up-to-date look.



VELVET TOUCH: Corrie star Debra Stephenson, 33, scores twice in the style stakes at this year's National Television Awards. Sporting a dress that's both black and velvet, she's right on trend. Work it girl!

GLITZY: There's nothing desperate about Eva Longoria, 30, here. The Desperate Housewives star shines in this stylish sparkly dress



BLING IT ON: Never one to go for the understated look, Kate Price, 27, alias Jordan, dazzles 'em at the National Television awards in this show-stopping gown.



Picture: EXPOSURE

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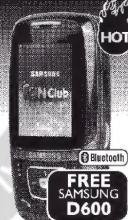
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100 TEXTS

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Just Jane



**JANE O'GORMAN SOLVES
YOUR PROBLEMS TODAY
... AND EVERY DAY**

Naked truth is he's a cheat

I COULD tell that my fella was really shocked when I stripped naked and proposed to him.

Well I had to get his attention somehow! Our wedding took place last May and I thought that it would change him.

But he's still taking calls from other women and even spends each weekend staying at his brother's house.

I've tried everything I can think of to turn him into a proper, respectful husband but he still does exactly as he chooses.

He's one very selfish and pigheaded man but the problem is that I still love him despite all this and rely on him for money.

JANE SAYS: What you have got to decide is, just how much you are prepared to put up with from this guy.

If you're unhappy that your new husband speaks (or should that be sleeps?) with other women and spends half the week away from you, then you've got to insist that he changes his ways once and for all.

If he refuses, then I'm afraid it's time for you to consider whether you really have a marriage at all.

You say that you still love him despite all this but isn't he just making you look a fool?

I understand that money is important but what about your own self-respect?

HIS 60-A-DAY FAG HABIT IS A DRAG

Fella too wheezy to get sleazy...

MY husband's heavy smoking is ruining our relationship.

His 60-a-day habit is costing us a fortune, and his constant coughing and wheezing is a major turnoff.

We haven't had sex for nearly a year – mostly because he can't get up the stairs, let alone get it up!

I'm sorry to sound crude, but that's just the way it is. I'm convinced that his addiction has left him impotent.

He says that he still loves me but he can no longer show that love.

While I trundle up to bed alone, he usually crashes out on the settee.

Every spare minute he puffs away on that same couch like a chimney.

With his overflowing ashtray on one side and his precious fags on the other he cuts a sad and pathetic sight.

And the saddest thing of all is that he's only 35.

Problem

My man is technically still in his prime. But because his fags mean more to him than I do, he looks and sounds more like a 70-year-old.

I keep telling him that his addiction is killing him and that we should be going out and having fun like other young couples and planning for the future.

But we've never had a decent holiday together and can't afford treats because his habit eats so heavily into our income.

Luckily we've both got jobs but I just don't know how long his health is going to hold out.

Surely if he loved me then he'd want to give up? All I can assume is that

his feelings for me aren't strong enough, so is there really any point in me sticking with him?

JANE SAYS: Your husband's nicotine addiction is like a third element in your marriage.

His need for fags has to be constantly taken into account – and paid for.

Some people might say that your fella is selfish but if he's in the grip of a serious addiction, then he needs proper help.

The first thing you've got to get him to do is accept that he has a serious problem.

There are all sorts of ways that smokers can be helped to give up – from acupuncture and hypnotherapy to patches and chewing gum.

Sit him down and ask him to take a good look at himself.

Offer to help him every step of the way, starting with a call to QUIT (0800 002 200).

If he really won't meet you halfway, you'll have to take a serious look at the quality of your life – and your health – and decide if staying with him is the best thing for you.

PUFF LUCK:
His smoking is killing him and our life together



WRITE TO REPLY

I RECENTLY received this letter from a reader. She wanted to know what she should do:

☐ I'M TORN between two guys. One is young, good looking, great in bed, but penniless. The other is 10 years my senior, very wealthy, but a complete let-down in bed. As I get different things from each guy I just don't know who to choose.

HERE are some of your replies...

☐ MY wealthy husband may spend a lot of time at work, but at least I always get money to spend and there's a gorgeous roof over my head. When I hear young girls prattling on about their careers I tell them that they're mad. A rich man is the key to a happy life as far as I'm concerned.

BRIGID CAMPBELL, Chester.

☐ CAN'T your reader find herself another man who is somewhere in between the two? My husband earns an OK salary and is OK in bed – and that's OK with me!

SANDRA FLYNN, London.

NOW for this week's problem. What should this reader do? Send your advice to the address at the bottom of the page. Your letters will be published in TWO weeks.

☐ MORE than once I've found my mother and my husband in compromising positions. Once they were both naked in our garden sauna. Another time I found him in her bed. Now he wants to spend three nights a week in her London flat to cut down on commuting. Would other readers trust them?



JANE'S ADVICE LINES

(Calls cost 60p per minute from a BT landline)

0905 062 2180

Coping With A Break-up

0905 062 2181

Finding The Perfect Partner

0905 062 2182

My Sex Life Is Boring

0905 062 2183

Boost Your Confidence

0905 062 2184

The Female Orgasm

0905 062 2185

My Partner Is Having An Affair

0905 062 2186

I'm So Lonely

0905 062 2187

Coping With Jealousy

0905 062 2188

Having Sex After A Baby

0905 062 2189

We Argue All The Time

0905 062 2190

Loving For The First Time

0905 062 2191

Fantastic Sex

Write to JUST JANE, Daily Star, 10 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6EN or email jane.gorman@dailystar.co.uk

JEALOUS OF SEXY MUM

AT the grand old age of 53, my mother has re-discovered sex. Now she and her new boyfriend are at it like rabbits.

I can genuinely say I'm delighted for them.

Mum had a rotten time with my dad and she deserves some love.

I just wish I could have a bit of what she's having. My fella's as sexy as a cold sore. I have far more fun with my vibrator than I do with him. But he just doesn't seem to notice how frustrated I am.

JANE SAYS: How is your husband supposed to

know how unsatisfied you are unless you tell him?

It's all very well bitching behind his back but why don't you start being honest with him and explaining that you need a lot more than he is giving you?

Take the initiative and suggest an early night.

Then set the scene properly – treat him to a sexy massage and ask him to do the same for you.

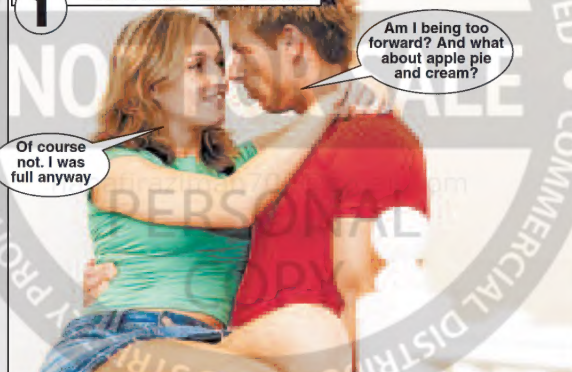
Build up slowly and just see what happens.

You can call my Female Orgasm Line (0905 062 2184) for more advice.

I'M A DISASTER

Day five

1 DAN CARRIES MEL UP STAIRS



2



3



4 SUDDENLY...



CONTINUES TOMORROW

Justin Toper

The **DAILY STAR** -gazer who knows your future

IF TODAY IS YOUR BIRTHDAY:
Your personal life is about to change for the better. The end of this year should be good at work - but don't let this spoil your love life.



Aries

(Mar 21-Apr 20)

FOR some reason you may be hurting and feel that others didn't really deserve your love or your money. Whichever way, you could make some impressive gains now. Getting back your self-respect is enough. For this you may have to risk more than you normally would. To see why the tables are turning and how you can capitalise, call...

To receive daily texts
send DSARI to 63333

0905 072 0099 (01) *



Taurus

(Apr 21-May 21)

MAYBE one relationship has no chance of developing - not when you are so wrapped up with the family or in your career. But that won't prevent you from straying. For with your ruler Venus moving into Capricorn this weekend, an invitation from afar may seem very attractive to you. To see why a move will happen, call...

To receive daily texts
send DSTAU to 63333

0905 072 0099 (02) *



Gemini

(May 22-June 22)

YOU may be pleased with the progress you have made at work. Now, however, you seem to be feeling a bit out of sorts. There is no need to panic because something will appear overnight. You may end up with more money in your pocket to spend on treating yourself. To see why you will become a force again, call...

To receive daily texts
send DSGEM to 63333

0905 072 0099 (03) *



Cancer

(June 23-July 23)

YOU could be forced to modify your demands. This is affordable in monetary terms. But what you have experienced has demanded a lot more. Emotionally, you may be shattered. However, no doubt you will be offered a brief but pleasant respite this weekend. You have definitely deserved it. To see why you don't need to be so cautious, call...

To receive daily texts
send DSCAN to 63333

0905 072 0099 (04) *



Leo

(July 24-Aug 23)

THEY say that familiarity breeds contempt. With the sun still at odds with Saturn in Leo, no one will escape the flak that you hand out - especially not the family. Perhaps you've been under stress or need a rest. If nothing else, this weekend should see an improvement all round. To see why you can't be talked down, call...

To receive daily texts
send DSLEO to 63333

0905 072 0099 (05) *



Virgo

(Aug 24-Sep 23)

TRUE, you may not be able to move around freely. For some reason what has just happened has left you disillusioned. Meanwhile, even if you haven't made any plans, you should have more purpose this weekend, though it is unlikely someone will be joining you. To see things from a different perspective, call...

To receive daily texts
send DSVIR to 63333

0905 072 0099 (06) *



Libra

(Sep 24-Oct 23)

YOU may have lost money on a deal. More likely, you feel betrayed because you had already signed a contract or exchanged vows. Seriously, you may find that charity begins at home this weekend and you may not wish to involve others in your business affairs. To find out how your fortunes can be transformed, call...

To receive daily texts
send DSLIB to 63333

0905 072 0099 (07) *



Scorpio

(Oct 24-Nov 22)

THE sun in Scorpio has been challenged by Saturn. Maybe you have a problem with authority figures; instead you might be involved in a personal conflict. But you cannot be told what to do. Aside from that you could find yourself engaged in extra curricula activities this weekend. To see why you are destined to succeed over the next few days, call...

To receive daily texts
send DSSCO to 63333

0905 072 0099 (08) *



Sagittarius

(Nov 23-Dec 21)

THERE might have been a breakdown in communications and you may find yourself in unfamiliar or foreign territory. But there is so much stuff going on behind the scenes, no wonder you are so troubled. Rest assured, a plan will be sorted out before the weekend - and it involves more than you think. To see why you hold a lot of trump cards, call...

To receive daily texts
send DSSAG to 63333

0905 072 0099 (09) *



Capricorn

(Dec 22-Jan 20)

YOU might have lost out on a deal or had to part with some money. Now, however, because Venus enters Capricorn you shouldn't worry as you can expect a flood of offers or suitors. But someone may make overtures which you will have to ignore. To see why love is more desirable than income, call...

To receive daily texts
send DSCAP to 63333

0905 072 0099 (10) *



Aquarius

(Jan 21-Feb 19)

THERE'S no point in arguing, not with the sun still at odds with Saturn. Perhaps you should realise that a relationship is not worth saving - apart from the fact that you might want to continue working with certain people. But you are vital to someone and can do no wrong. To see why the balance of power is shifting, call...

To receive daily texts
send DSAQU to 63333

0905 072 0099 (11) *



Pisces

(Feb 20-Mar 20)

YOU appear to have gone against the grain, which is a terrible shame because you have done such a great job recently. Beyond this, you may feel that you are not really part of someone else's plans. However, by the weekend different people will show up and life won't be dull by any stretch of the imagination. To see why you won't be stuck for long, call...

To receive daily texts
send DSPIS to 63333

0905 072 0099 (12) *

* When you telephone to hear Justin's weekly in-depth forecast, you will be asked to dial your special Zodiac Number. This is the number in brackets next to the general number under each of the star signs. Calls to Justin's Zodiac Lines cost 75p per minute from a BT landline. Subscribe to receive Justin's daily texts for 50p per message per day; eg text DSARI to 63333. You will be sent one new message daily. This is a subscription service - it will cost you 50p per day until you text your star sign's code followed by STOP, eg DSARI STOP to 63333. For help call 0871 872 0112.

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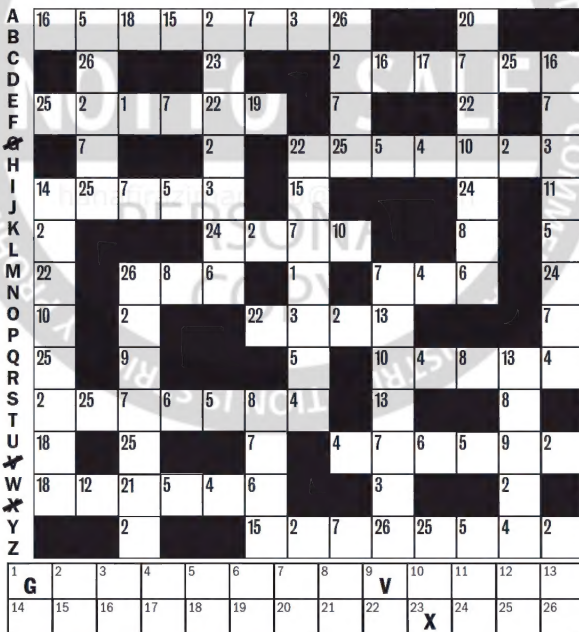


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THE PAPER FOR WINNERS

Alpha Puzzle™



The ULTRA Alphapuzzle™
WELCOME to the ULTRA Alphapuzzle™ – Friday's special 'extra tough' version of Britain's favourite wordpower challenge. Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. All 26 letters are used. **TARGET TIME:** 30 minutes. **Solution next Friday.**

For up to six Extra Clue Letters, call:
0905 072 1811
(Deduct three minutes from Target Time for each extra letter heard.)

Stuck getting started? Don't give up.
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Alternatively, text: **DXALPHAX**
to **83426** and we will text the extra letter clues direct to your mobile.
*Texts cost £1 plus normal network operator rate.

Full solution: **0905 072 1810**

Across only: **0905 072 1812**

Down only: **0905 072 1813**

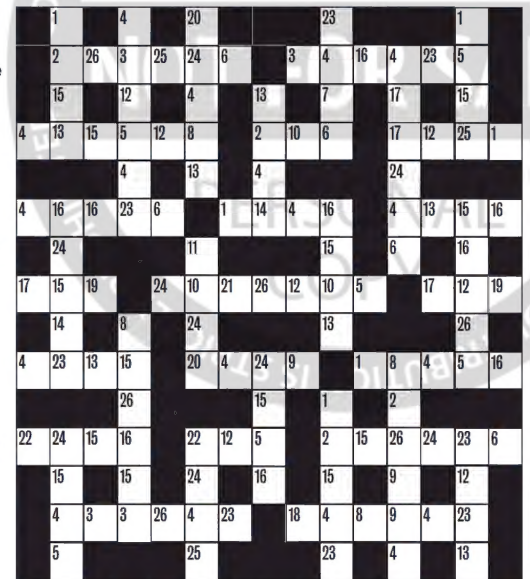
Calls cost 75p a minute from a BT landline (Ave Call length 90 secs).

Last Friday's solution

Across: Thirst, Toilet, Gum, Boric, Tacit, With, Ether, Jail, Trisect, Ocean, Ritzy, Tempest, Vein, Quite, Wash, Token, Rotor, Dot, Teapot, Tumult.

Down: Gown, Trivet, Hamster, Trickle, Robe, Style, Snip, Tar, Tact, Turret, Ticket, Text, Tot, Into, Coup, From, Enclave, Scandal, Talent, That.

● Alphapuzzle books: Volume 10 is now available. To order at £6.99 - or order Vol 3 at the same price (UK postage is FREE), please send cheque or postal order to: Express Bookshop, PO Box 200, Falmouth, Cornwall TR11 4WJ, phone 0871 434 6091 with your credit card number or online at www.expressbookshop.com ©2005 Acorn Editorial.



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Alphapuzzle™ tests your logic and word power. Each grid number represents a letter. Every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter or letters – below the main grid – to start. Solution tomorrow.

DIFFICULTY: 8/10; **TARGET:** 30 minutes; **CLUE:** His dream is not perceived right.

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION: Across:

Yonder, Zither, Timpani, Arrow, Foul, Vexed, Board, Have, Droll, Conquer, Enlist, Domain.

Down: Mystify, Adder, Enamoured, Could, Metal, Jobless, Wisecrack, Citadel (clue), Snoot, Charm, Natural, Grown, Herring.

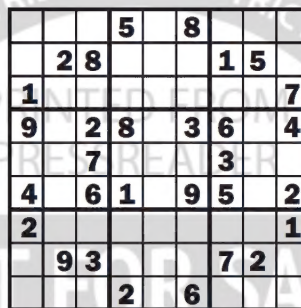
EXTRA LETTER CLUES: 0905 072 3264
(Hear up to six extra letters, deduct two minutes for each clue letter heard.)

● Alternatively text **DSALPHA** to 83426 and we will text the six extra letter clues direct to your mobile. ● Texts cost £1 plus normal network operator rate.

FULL SOLUTION: 0905 072 3265

● Calls cost 75p per minute from BT landlines

SUDOKU



Fill the grid so that every column, row, and 3x3 square includes all of the digits from one to nine.
Level: Difficult
Target: 32 mins

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



Extra clues: **0905 072 0302** Today's solution: **0905 072 0301**

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

HONEY COMB

- 1 Coarse 2 Desire 3 Façade
- 4 Docile 5 Eldest 6 Script
- 7 Afraid 8 Liffey 9 Baffle
- 10 Topics 11 Linear 12 Easily
- 13 Rabble 14 Talbot 15 Tenure
- 16 Dosage 17 Grease 18 Cattle
- 19 Frugal 20 Godiva 21 Sailor
- 22 Police 23 Vienna 24 Opener.

MORE PUZZLES IN TOMORROW'S DAILY STAR

Two-way Teaser

Call **0905 072 3267** for today's solution. Calls cost 75p per minute from a BT landline.

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- 3 Tip for front line attackers? (9)
- 7 Wise men, numerically speaking (5)
- 8 It's in relief sent over to foreign country (5)
- 9 Rapid climber Number Two? (6,2)
- 10 Waterbird was almost red on back (5)
- 13 Hardened group (3)
- 15 Ref has to be trained again (6)
- 16 Painter will decorate it with star (6)
- 17 Desire for foreign currency (3)
- 19 Don will protect the old member (5)
- 23 Fall out with side and rage wildly (8)
- 24 Wait 24 hours to bring in the Spanish (5)
- 25 Spear's point stuck into fancy material (5)

DOWN

- 1 Right way for helmsman to steer (9)
- 2 This fellow is outspoken (5)
- 3 Cut off point always (5)
- 4 Put up with reforming under England's leader (6)
- 5 Men would chicken out of going to this! (3,5)
- 6 Come up with a pay increase (5)
- 11 Dog known to make a good recovery (9)
- 12 Worship even changes speed (8)
- 13 Self-conscious having a fling (3)
- 14 Get a sunburn at returning north (3)

QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

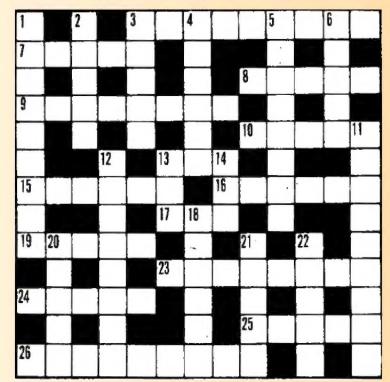
- 1 Initiate a campaign (9)
- 7 A trio (5)
- 8 A republic in S.Asia (5)
- 9 Contestant finishing second (6,2)
- 10 Heron for instance (5)
- 13 Matching collection of objects (3)
- 15 Anew (6)
- 16 Painter (6)
- 17 Intense longing (3)

DOWN

- 1 Right side of a plane (9)
- 2 Honest, open (5)
- 3 To cut (5)
- 4 To bear (6)
- 5 Female get-together (3,5)
- 6 To come up as a consequence (5)
- 11 Breed of dog (9)
- 12 Regard with feelings of respect (8)
- 13 Timid, reserved (3)
- 14 Thrash (3)
- 18 Evoke (6)
- 20 Sea (5)
- 21 Exchange of shots in tennis (5)
- 22 Permit (5)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION: ACROSS – 1 First gear, 7 Eerie, 9 Airtight, 11 Round, 12 Between, 14 Each, 15 Ace, 17 Air, 18 Scab, 20 Biggest, 23 Bride, 24 Aggrieve, 26 Linen, 27 Treadmill. **DOWN** – 2 Image, 3 Screw, 4 Egg, 5 Retreat, 6 Head first, 8 Roughage, 10 Item, 12 Black belt, 13 Thespian, 16 Pageant, 19 Pier, 21 Gleam, 22 Swell, 25 Gee.

Two sets of clues, but the answers are the same
ANSWERS TOMORROW



The Daily Star Crossword Books Vols 2 - 12, The Puzzler Books of Crosswords Vols 1-4 and The Puzzler Books of Puzzles Vols 2, 3 and 4 are all currently available at £3.99 each. Please send a cheque or postal order made payable to The Daily Star Bookshop, PO Box 200, Falmouth TR11 4WJ or telephone 0871 434 6095 with your credit card details. Please allow 14 days for delivery. Postage in the UK is free.

It's the business

'He who says there is no such thing as an honest man, you may be sure is himself a knave' - BISHOP BERKELEY

Movers & groovers

THE annual apple harvest in orchards owned by the maker of Strongbow and Woodpecker cider, **HP Bulmer** has taken place in Hereford.

The firm, now owned by brewer **Scottish & Newcastle**, has developed a three-tractor method to pick apples.

The first tractor has a long arm with a grab on the end which seizes the trunk and shakes it, sending the apples flying in the air.

Next up is a tractor with a sucking device on the front. This sucks up the fallen apples and a conveyor takes them up and over the vehicle and into a trailer.

If there are any apples beyond its reach, the third tractor then comes into play.

This has what looks like an upside-down hairdryer on the back, which blows the apples to where the sucker can reach.

Fans of TV show **Scrapheap Challenge** will love it.

Meanwhile, the science of apples is called pomology, which has caused confusion in some quarters, says **Scottish & Newcastle** boss **John Dunsmore**.

"We have an Australian chief executive, **Tony Froggatt**," he said. "When I first told him, he thought I was taking the mickey."

NORWICH Union has been "de-risking" its general insurance operations by reviewing all policies with premiums of £100,000 a year or more when they come up for renewal.

One they refused to renew was a stately home with lax safety standards which burnt down soon after. The cost? £17million.

- THE DEALER

HOT GOSSIP

ONGOING bid talk sent blue chip share prices shooting up to a four-week high yesterday. The **FTSE 100** index closed 73.3 points higher at 5431.9, amid speculation that bids were being lined up for fund manager **Amvescap** and **Kingfisher**, the owner of B&Q.

LSE bid to flush out the Aussies

THE **London Stock Exchange** wants would-be bidders to "put up or shut up" so that it can get on with growing the business, chief exec **Clara Russo** said yesterday.

It is believed the company has asked the Takeover Panel to set a deadline in a move largely designed to flush out the intentions of **Macquarie**.

This Aussie investment bank has expressed an interest, but has yet to approach the LSE board.

However, **Furse** said the company remained in "amicable" talks with another prospective bidder, fellow exchange operator **Euronext**.

It is thought this is less likely to proceed with a £1.5 billion or greater bid

after this week's Competition Commission ruling that would force it to sell down its stake in shares clearing house **LCH Clearnet**.

Defence

But **Furse** said other deals were possible, including a merger or a takeover of **Euronext** by LSE. She said the group

was also exploring opportunities abroad.

Her defence against any bid was strengthened by a strong set of half-year results.

Pre-tax profits fell by 40% to £30m after a write-down for the half-year to September. But underlying profits rose by 24% to £50.8m. Shares rose 4.5p to 570.5p.

FAIR SHARES

UK financial firms were on bid alert amid speculation Icelandic investment bank **Kaupthing** was lining up a takeover of a City stockbroker firm. **Brewin Dolphin** rose 6.75p to 141p while **Charles Stanley** added 3p to 281p. Dealers played down talk of an imminent bid for **Numis**, off 3.5p to 247p.

It's phone wars

CARPHONE WAREHOUSE TAKES ON BT GIANT

by BILL MARTIN

CARPHONE Warehouse has unveiled a three-year plan for a broadband and landline network to undercut BT.

The scheme, covering 75% of the country at a cost of £60 million, mirrors one **BSkyB** revealed last month.

It will also compete with other big players such as **France Telecom's** **Wanadoo**, **Cable & Wireless's** **Bulldog** and **Tiscali**. Chief executive **Charles Dunstone** declared: "Our aim is to be the number one residential alternative to BT."

"With our stores, we've got the distribution network that others need. You'd be brave to bet against us."

Dunstone said putting his own switches into 1,000 BT exchanges - called "local loop unbundling" - then connecting people to the company's own network, could save customers £9 a month.

He would even save up to £2 a customer for those who just took

a TalkTalk landline service and not a broadband package.

Dunstone said a marketing campaign revealing prices for customers would begin in the spring and the first exchanges would be unbundled at the start of the year.

Meanwhile **Carphone's** existing TalkTalk landline service, which rents BT exchange equipment, grew to just over a million customers in the six months to October.

It made profits of £2.6 million against a £5.8m loss last time.

Profits

The core business, selling subscriptions to mobile phones, grew first half profits 24% to £23m helped by expansion into continental Europe and Britain's mobile operators offering free contract handsets.

"I think that's pretty credible for a retailer at the moment," said Dunstone. He predicted his best Christmas seller would be **Motorola's** slimline **RAZR** flip-phone.

Carphone has bought 250,000 pink-coloured versions and sold 6,000 in the first two days.

Steve Davies, of **Numis Securities**, reckons **Carphone** is "fast becoming the Tesco of the telecoms world".

news@dailystar.co.uk



RINGING CHANGES: Carphone has mastered mobiles

Soaps firm in lather

UNILEVER is being taken to the cleaners by rivals in western Europe, with a 17% quarterly fall in home care profits.

Giants like **Procter & Gamble** are hitting sales of its products, which include **Persil**, **Surf** and **Cif**.

Nestlé is also eating into Unilever's sales of its **Wall's**, **Ben & Jerry's** and **Cornetto** ice cream.

And its long-suffering **Birds Eye** frozen foods arm saw profits fall 12% in the third quarter.

Value

The dire figures wiped £580 million or 3.5% off Unilever's value yesterday, with shares falling 20p to 560.5p.

Chief executive **Patrick Cescau** - who took over from **Niall Fitzgerald** last year after the company issued its first-ever profit warning - admitted the group had lost market share in laundry products.

He said: "Western Europe remains difficult and we have not yet made the progress in restoring growth that we have elsewhere."

Third quarter sales fell 2%, on top of a 5% dive the same time last year, while extra marketing costs also eroded profits.

FTSE100 SHARE INDEX ▲ Up 73.30 points (1.37%) at 5431.90

Company	Price	Change	High	Low	52w High	52w Low
Al Grp	1470	+14	1488	1453	1470	1453
A B Food	814	+9	823	805	814	805
Alliance & Leat	888	+23	947	814	2233	814
Alliance Unichim	780	+10	875	670	6022	670
AMVESCAP	376	+15	432	299	1124	299
Anglo	1708	+31	1709	1130	4949	1130
Antofagasta	1485	+15	1580	1018	3438	1018
Astrazenca	2576	+26	2767	1861	1585	1861
Athlra	683ud	+13	607	559	3388	559
BAA	820	-	839	571	7389	571
BAE Sys	343ud	+7	344	224	1010	224
Barclays	584	+12	614	519	1004	519
BO Grp	540	+15	544	344	7274	344
BHP Bill	862	+25	916	560	2423	560
BOD Grp	1113	+21	1173	878	1008	878
Boots Group	611ud	+3	692	585	1009	585
BP	640	+12	683	500	1011	500
Bob	741	+5	741	436	1094	436
Br Airways	319	+5	316	215	6258	215
Br Amer Tob	1258	+9	1259	844	1003	844
Br Land	936	+16	958	760	1128	760
BSkyB	527ud	+2	585	505	3382	505
BT Group	210	+1	235	185	1012	185
Cable & Wire	117	+2	146	105	1015	105
Cadbury-Sch	568	+11	594	446	1016	446
Carn Energy	138	+63	2018	1042	3643	1042
Capita Group	387	+5	394	345	5263	345
Carnival	3009	+61	3241	2637	2568	2637

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COST OF FIGHT A KIL-ER BLOW

KILLING off Sir Gerry Robinson's controversial attempt to take control of **Rentokil** Initial cost the company £10 million.

The pest control giant's profits suffered because of their huge outlay in fees to fight Sir Gerry's **Raphoe** investment firm.

Rentokil chief Doug Flynn said: "I'd be very happy if I never heard the name Raphoe again for the rest of my life."

Sir Gerry, presenter of BBC's I'll Show Them Who's Boss, dropped his plans last month after an

outray over proposals to give him a £55m stake in the group.

Rentokil's third quarter operating income fell 7.5% to £88.7m but this compared with a 10.5% fall in the first half of the year.

Sales were 5.3% higher at £559m while pre-tax profits fell 21% to £53m.

Flynn, who joined in April, said the pace of decline had slowed in many areas.

The group's pension deficit widened from £284m to £324m.

Source: www.DigitalLook.com

IT'S NOT
NOBBY'S
IT'S...

NOBBY'S KNOWS: SPORTY SNACKS ARE KICKING

FACT hungry Daily Star readers have proved what good sports they are - bombarding us with brilliant sporting trivia for our new column Nobby's Knows.

We've launched our search for the world's most amazing facts - those little gems of knowledge that leave you just as satisfied as Nobby's crisps themselves.

And proving what brilliant bar room brains Star readers have we have had scores of tasty bits of trivia sent to us for this week's theme - Sporty Snacks. Nobby's ridged and chunky crisps arm you with a filling fact on every pack.

Here we bring you some of the chunkiest sporting facts and tell you how you can win a car by sending us your best facts or solving our number cruncher questions.

First Penalty

Penalty spot nail-biters began back in 1891 when brave John Heath scored the sport's first for Wolverhampton Wanderers against Accrington Stanley.

Silly Little League

It's a local derby every weekend in the Isles of Scilly - which boasts the record for the world's smallest league. Just two teams battle it out for the season's trophy - the Woolpack Wanderers and Garrison Gunners.

Fastest Game

It sounds like a game for real basket cases. The sport of jai alai is the speediest in the world where players, in the Basque area of Spain, throw the ball at speeds of 190mph using what look like a

combination of hockey sticks and baskets.

Exclusive Club

Scottish minnows St Johnstone are the only British league team with a J in their name. They had to be famous for something.

Greatest Goals

Archie Thompson scored an international record of 13 goals during the 31-0 defeat by Australia of American Samoa in a World Cup qualifying match 2001.

Bad Mouthing

Loose lipped Joaquin Valerio, goalie with Spanish side Real Betis, got booted off the pitch before he even got on it. A massive forty minutes before the game actually began furious referee Fidel Valle Gil showed him the red card in the tunnel after Valerio insulted him.

Football First

The first recorded use of the word 'football' was in 1424 in an Act of James I of Scotland in which he banned it. The mean spirited king reckoned it stopped men from getting on with useful stuff like 'shooting arrows'. The sensible Scots ignored him.

Notts Good

Long suffering Notts County hold the record for the English league football team who have been relegated most often. The good news is that over the years they have gone up 11 times - the bad news is that they have been demoted 15 times.

Brit Embarrassing

These days the Olympics don't feature a British football team. But back in 1972 we did enter a GB team for the Munich tournament. It was red faces all round though when we didn't make the final cut - losing out over two legs to Bulgaria in qualifying.

Fastest Own Goal

Flashy Pat Kruse, playing for Torquay in 1977, scored the fastest goal in British football timed at six seconds against Cambridge United.

Hearty Game

Fifty per cent more blokes in Holland died of a heart attack or stroke the day that the national team were knocked out of Euro 96.

Horsing About

Every thoroughbred racehorse in the country can trace its roots back to just three stallions from the 17th and 18th century - the Turk, the Barb and the Arabian.

Longest Throw-in

Handy footballer Michael Lochner holds the record for chucking the ball an amazing 48.17 metres. The American, from Ohio in the USA threw down the challenge back in June 1988.

New Round

Crafty carpenter Brian Gamlin came up with the random order of numbers on the dart board to make it a harder game for a fairground in 1896.

Arkle Angel

Turf topping horse Arkle was only beaten four times in 26 steeplechases

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before dying from an injury in 1966.

Unbeaten Record

Only two clubs have gone through an entire season in the top flight unbeaten - Arsenal in the 2003/4 season and Preston back in 1888/9.

Brush Strokes

Wacky entertainer Rolf Harris was a champion backstroke champ in Australia back in 1946. 'Well tie me kangaroo down sport'.

Local Derby

The phrase for a game between local rivals comes from the town of

Ashbourne in Derbyshire where, since way back in the 12th century two teams from the town play a rough version of footie, actually more like rugby, called the Royal Shrovetide Football Match.



Reader fact file

Jim, London

SHIN BIN

Kicking the shins of another player was legal in football until banned by the FA in 1863. Obviously no-one got around to telling Vinnie Jones.

Tim, Bournemouth

CUP COCK-UP

London club QPR managed to forget to enter the FA Cup in 1927. Probably just as well.

Ross, Morecombe

TOP SCORER

Alan Shearer is the top Premiership goal scorer of all time with 252 goals, followed by Andy Cole (182) Robbie Fowler (154) Les Ferdinand (150) and Teddy Sheringham (142)

Nick, Edinburgh

IT'S A WALKOVER

It feels great when your team wins - but did you know that the phrase 'a walkover' comes from horseracing when a horse was uncontested in a race and just had to literally walk over the course to win.

Matt, Cardiff

BIG BREAK

During the 1980 World Team Championships, Canadian snooker player Bill Werberniuk became the first professional player to split his trousers while playing on television. To make it worse, the big boned cue master wasn't wearing pants.



**READ NOBBY'S KNOWS ON MONDAY FOR A FACT FEAST
...AND ANOTHER CHANCE TO WIN A CAR**

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE



Gear up for fact-tastic car prize

ALL this week we have been getting your trivia motor running and racing into the fact fast lane with Nobby's Knows.

Each day of the week we've printed a Big Number Cruncher multiple choice question, so you should have 4 numbers so far in our competition that could win you a gleaming new Honda Civic Type R. Today we publish the 5th and final Big Number Cruncher question. All you have to do now is put all the answers in day order (Mon-Fri) to give you a row of five figures to complete the code and send it to us. If you have crunched the numbers correctly, you'll be entered into our prize draw to win our cracking car.

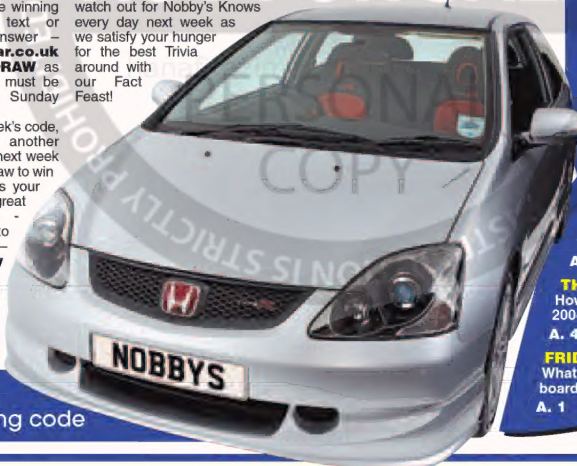
In case you missed any of the questions, to the right, you'll see a repeat of all this week's Big Number Crunchers and the final Friday question.

For a chance to win, call us now on **0905 072 3631** with the winning code. You can also text or email us with your answer - competition@dailystar.co.uk with **NOBBY'S CAR DRAW** as the subject title. Entries must be received by midnight Sunday November 6.

If you can't crack this week's code, don't worry - we have another Honda Type R to be won next week and you can get into the draw to win it right now by sending us your best bit of knowledge, a great fact or tasty life tip - simply text **TRIVIA** to **88833** or email us - competition@dailystar.co.uk with **NEWS FOR NOBBY'S** as the subject title.

You can also send us your trivia by following Nobby's link on

www.dailysnack.com and watch out for Nobby's Knows every day next week as we satisfy your hunger for the best Trivia around with our Fact Feast!



For your chance to win this fabulous car call **0905 072 3631** with the winning code

THE BIG NUMBER CRUNCHER

MONDAY'S QUESTION

How many Gold Medals did Kelly Holmes win at the 2004 Athens Olympics?

A. 1 B. 2 C. 3

TUESDAY'S QUESTION

How many goals did Northern Ireland score against England in their most recent World Cup qualifying match?

A. 1 B. 2 C. 3

WEDNESDAY'S QUESTION

What is the number of shirt that David Beckham wears when he plays for England?

A. 1 B. 3 C. 7

THURSDAY'S QUESTION

How many goals did Wayne Rooney score in Euro 2004?

A. 4 B. 6 C. 9

FRIDAY'S FINAL QUESTION

What scoring number is at the very bottom of a dart board?

A. 1 B. 2 C. 3

Terms & Conditions: 1. The prize is 1 (one) Honda Civic 2.0 VTEC Type R car; features include standard specification for the afore mentioned model, the winner will have a choice of non-metallic colours, subject to availability at the time of booking, six months car tax and delivery of the vehicle to the Honda dealer nearest to the winner's home address. 2. The prize cannot be modified and there is no cash alternative in part or in whole. 3. The promotion is open to all residents of the UK aged 18 or over who hold a valid full driving licence, except for employees of the promoter, their families, suppliers, agents or associates. 4. The winner will be chosen at random from the correct entries received. All winners will be notified by post within 28 days. 5. Usual rules apply. 6. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. 7. Winners may be required to participate in publicity. 8. Your prize is valid for 12 months from the date of winning, after, which time it is considered expired.

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GIVE US A STEER

Q I'VE decided on an Audi A4, and have a budget of around £10,000. Trouble is, there are so many different engine choices and trim levels I don't know where to start. I don't need fantastic performance or 4WD, but I would like something reasonably quick that's not too expensive to insure or run.

A The 1.9 TDI with 130bhp is the best unit for performance and economy. It gets to 60mph in 9.6 seconds, has a top speed of 128 mph and returns 48 mpg. If you really must have a petrol, go for the 1.8T – the pick of the smaller petrols. It shaves a second off the 0-60 mph time, but is only capable of 32 mpg.

Q I've been thinking about buying a Mazda MX-5, but I've just seen a Eunos Roadster. It looks like

PARKER'S CAR GUIDES

Your motoring questions answered by the experts www.parkers.co.uk

an MX-5 and is a little cheaper, so what's the difference?

A Eunos Roadster is a Japanese MX-5 and is very similar to those sold by your Mazda dealer, only they're usually privately imported into the UK.

It's one of the better "grey" imports to go for: parts and servicing are readily available and insurance isn't much more than a UK car.

However, make sure all the modifications have been done (eg speed to mph) and it has a Single Vehicle Approval (SVA) certificate.

A RECENT survey showed that teenagers no longer immediately demand a car and driving lessons for their 17th birthday. In fact, the tradition of driving at 17 is a thing of the past. Most young people don't bother learning to drive until they are at least 21, reveal car insurers More Than. They say that because of the theory test and more people going to university they're quite happy to wait. Personally, I thought it was because of our fabulous, comfy, cheap and reliable train and bus services. Or is it because they're all more interested in going to the pub?

IMAGE

REAR MIRROR MONSTER: You'll certainly know it's no normal Focus. Sits low, with a huge spoiler.

BACKSIDE BEAUTY: Front in reverse. Deep spoiler, loads of chrome, including the twin exhausts.

PLAYTIME PLEASER: Hugely equipped. Base ST gets twin zone climate control, cruise and a CD-stereo.

NAUGHTY NIGGLES: Going round bends, you'll peer round massive window pillars.

TASTY TOUCHES: Stick your choics in the cooled glove box.

FAST OR LAST: An absolute stonker. It's a billion times better than the awful RS.

WONGA WONDER: ST is fantastic value. Ford will sell as many as they can make.

WOULD AN ESSEX GIRL LIKE IT? Tracey would love one of these. She may not drive it like Darren, but it's one hell of a pose.

TURN ON THE LOUD BUTTON: New Focus ST is a fantastic performer that makes all the right noises

Ford focus on speed...

THERE'S not much gets past me. And that's because I'm fantastic.

There's not much that will get past the new Ford Focus ST, either. And you know why?

That's right. Because it's also fantastic. There's even less, however, that will get past a Focus ST driven by Daily Star Sunday motoring man Mark Forsyth. And you know why? Because a long, long time ago, someone removed his brain.

Last week, if you hadn't guessed by now, Ford launched the hot new Focus ST, which is their answer to the dazzling Vauxhall Astra VXR.

Now these days most car companies don't quote 0-60 mph acceleration times. No, you'll get a curious 0-62 mph figure, because this is the same as a 0-100kph Euro figure.

Vauxhall are one of the few firms to have stuck to the old 0-60 time. Is that because they like to think of themselves as traditionalists?

Is it hell. It's because it makes the car sound faster.

So the VXR does 0-60 in 6.2 secs. And guess what? The Focus ST does 0-60 in 6.5 secs.

Yep, I spotted Ford's switch to English. If they'd stuck to 0-62 it would be 6.8 secs, and that sounds a lot slower than the VXR's 6.2.

Top speeds of 150 (ST) and 152 mph (VXR) are meaningless except when it comes to determining the size of your fine and length of

ban/jail sentence. Fire up the five-cylinder 220 bhp ST and it sounds fantastic. It rolls and roars and in the pit lane of the Paul Ricard circuit in the south of France you could easily mistake the racket for a proper rally car.

You shoot off into the distance with an addictive growl.

Quick

Needless to say, I comfortably kept up with Fearless Forsyth.

Sadly, though, that was only for the practice lap. I didn't see him after that and nor did anyone else.

Mind you, as he's a GP motor cycle racer, I suppose you'd expect him to be a bit quick.

Right from standstill, the ST dis-

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